

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1614

DE BRUIJN ET AL.

Examiner: Delacroix Muirhei, Cybille

APPLICATION NO: 10/620,178

FILED: JULY 15, 2003

FOR: NEW ORAL FORMULATION

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of June 20, 2006 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on September 20, 2006. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: December 19, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Waibel Attorney for Applicants

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